

LEO DROZDOFF, *Administrator*

(775) 687-4670
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Facsimile 687-5856

Water Quality Planning
Water Pollution Control
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Mining Regulation & Reclamation
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DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

333 W. Nye Lane, Room 138
Carson City, Nevada 89706

June 14, 2005

Notice of Proposed Action

The Administrator of the Division of Environmental Protection gives notice that an application for renewal of a Water Pollution Control Permit for the Tonkin Springs Project, has been properly filed with the Division of Environmental Protection in Carson City. The applicant for renewal of Water Pollution Control Permit NEV0085021 is:

Tonkin Springs LLC
P.O. Box 2429
Elko, Nevada 89803

The facility is located on public and private land in Eureka County, in Sections 2 and 3, Township 23.5 North, Range 49 East, and Sections 28, 29, 33, and 34, Township 24 North, Range 49 East, Mount Diablo Baseline and Meridian, approximately 45 miles northwest of the town of Eureka, Nevada.

The project consists of a mining and beneficiation facility that is in temporary closure, designed to extract precious metals (e.g. gold, silver), with a maximum permitted production rate of 1,000,000 tons of ore per year. The facility is comprised of mine pits, a heap leach pad, an event pond, a tailings impoundment and seepage collection tank/pond, a mill and process plant (bio-oxidation facility), and ancillary facilities (e.g. piping). Facilities are required to be designed, constructed, operated and closed without any discharge or release in excess of those standards established in regulation except for meteorological events which exceed the design storm event.

The Administrator is constrained to issue the renewed Water Pollution Control Permit or to deny the application. The Administrator has made the tentative decision to issue the renewed permit.

Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed Water Pollution Control Permit, to recommend terms and conditions for consideration of incorporation into the permit, or who request a public hearing pursuant to Nevada Administrative Code, NAC Chapter 445A, must submit their written comments, objections, or requests no later than 5:00 PM on the 30th day following the date of publication of this notice to:

Division of Environmental Protection
Bureau of Mining Regulation and Reclamation

333 West Nye Lane, Room 138
Carson City, Nevada 89706-0851

All comments or objections received during the public notice period will be considered in the final determination regarding this Water Pollution Control Permit. If the Division determines written comments or requests indicate a significant degree of public interest in this matter, the Administrator shall schedule a public hearing in accordance with the requirements of NAC 445A.405.

The draft Water Pollution Control Permit and all application documents are on file at the Division and are available for public inspection and copying pursuant to NRS 445A.665. For more information, contact [Bob Carlson](#) at (775) 687-9401, toll free in Nevada (800) 992-0900, extension 4670, or visit our website at <http://ndep.nv.gov/bmrr/bmrr01.html>